

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Page 7, line 25 – Page 8 line 6 with the following:

The process described above is also used to transmit signals from remote terminal 12b to remote terminal 12a. The use of multiple vocoders as illustrated by FIG. 4 is termed “tandem vocoding.” A degradation of the speech signal occurs due to the multiplicity of encoding and decoding functions performed upon the speech signal. Tandem vocoding can be bypassed if the vocoder at the base station has the same configuration as the vocoder at the target destination. Implementation details of vocoder bypass are described in U.S. Patent No. 5,956,673, entitled, “Detection and Bypass of Tandem Vocoding Using Detection Codes,” assigned to the assignee of the present invention and incorporated by reference herein. In particular, a pseudorandom detection code can be embedded within the PCM output so that a receiving vocoder with the correct service option programming can detect the code and thereby conclude that the originating party utilized a similar vocoder. If the vocoders of the remote terminals are the same, then the decoder of the target remote terminal can decode the encoded speech generated by the originating remote terminal.